

Message Text

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14

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TAGS: PFOR MX SP

SUBJECT: REMARKS OF PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA RE SPANISH- MEXICAN
RELATIONS

1. SEVERAL MADRID PAPERS APRIL 6 PROMINENTLY REPORTED
STATEMENTS MADE BY ECHEVERRIA DURING PRESS CONF IN LONDON APRIL
5 RE FUTURE ESTABLISHMENT OF SPANISH- MEXICAN DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS. HE REPORTEDLY STATED: " IN OUR OPEN POLICY TOWARD
THE WORLD FIGURES THE SUBJECT OF SPANISH- MEXICAN DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS. THERE WILL BE RELATIONS, AND I MIGHT ADD IN A
MID- TERM RATHER THAN IMMEDIATE FUTURE."

2. HE FURTHER SAID: " THERE ISNT A COUNTRY IN THE UNION OF
LATIN AMERICANS WHICH MEXICO DOESN ' T LOVE MORE THAN SPAIN.
IT IS THE FATHERLAND OF OUR ANCESTORS AND THE MOST IMPORTANT
PART OF OUR CULTURE IS TRANSPLANTED FROM SPAIN." AFTER
CITING EVENTS OF 1935 AND 1936 PRESIDENT REPORTEDLY CONTINUED,
" WE GIVE INCREASING IMPORTANCE TO THE SIGN FICANCE OF SPANISH
FACTORS. WE ARE PROUD OF THEM. THE SURNAMES OF MEXICAN FAMILIES,
INCLUDING THOSE OF PURE INDIGENOUS BLOOD ARE NAMES OF SPAIN.
IN FEW COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD IS SUCH A WARM
WELCOME GIVEN TO OUR COMPATRIOTS AS IN SPAIN. THE SAME
FRIENDSHIP EXISTS WHEN SPANIARDS COME TO MEXICO. BETWEEN OUR
TWO COUNTRIES THERE ARE PERMANENT TIES."

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3. IN COVERAGE OF ECHEVERRIA' S STATEMENTS, ABC COMMENTS
" WHEN THE PRESIDENT STATES THAT MEXICO SEEKS UNDERSTANDING
WITH ALL COUNTRIES AT THE SERVICE OF A PEACE WHICH IS NOT
BASED ON A BALANCE OF NUCLEAR ARMS, IT SEEMS LOGICAL TO
BELIEVE THAT THE OFFICIAL NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL COME IN THE MID- TERM,
WHICH DOES NOT IMPLY A LONG WAIT."

4. IN SIMILAR VEIN, INFORMACIONES COMMENTS: IT APPEARS AS
IF PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA TOOK A SPECIAL INTEREST IN POINTING
OUT THE CONTRADICTION INDICATED -- AND NOT SPECIFICALLY
THROUGH THE FAULT OF SPAIN -- BY THE FACT THAT THERE ARE NO
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN MEXICO AND SPAIN AND EVEN MORE NOW
THAT PEKING HAS RECOGNIZED THE MADRID REGIME AND SPAIN' S
OPENING TO THE EAST SEEMS IRREVERSIBLE. WITH MEXICO AS
WITH MOSCOW THERE EXISTS THE DISPUTE OVER GOLD BUT NO ONE
BELIEVES AT THIS TIME THAT THIS IS AN INSUPERABLE OBSTACLE."

5. COMMENT: FOREGOING EDITORIAL COMMENTS ARE IN LINE WITH
GOS POSTURE THAT ABSENCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH
MEXICO NOT DUE TO LACK OF DESIRE ON PART OF SPAIN.
RIVERO

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